

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Field et al.

Application No.: 09/540,576

Filed: March 31, 2000

Title: DEBUGGER PROTOCOL GENERATOR



Attorney Docket No.: SUN1P252/P4198

Examiner: Kiss, Eric B.

Group: 2122

Confirmation No.: 2536

DECLARATION (C) UNDER 37 CFR § 1.132

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Robert Field, declare the following:

1. I have a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics with an emphasis in Computer Science from Sonoma State University (1980) and a Master's degree in Computer and Information Sciences from the University of California at Santa Cruz (1987). My work experience related to debuggers includes the following: During my tenure at ParcPlace Systems (1987-1998) I was Technical and Project Lead of the Objectworks C/C++ product, an IDE for C and C++ development, which had debugger functionality at its core. During my tenure at Sun Microsystems (1998-present) I was Maintenance Lead of the former "sun.tools.debug" debugging interface. I was inventor and through 2001 Architect and Technical Lead of the Java Platform Debugger Architecture (JPDA, initially "JBug"). I remain an active advisor to the current JPDA team while I design next-generation extensions to the architecture, which include the Java Virtual Machine Tool Interface which was delivered in Java 2 Standard Edition version 5.0.

2. I have reviewed the Office Action issued by the Examiner and understand that the claims of the above identified application stand rejected for being obvious in view of the subject matter

described in the presentation entitled "The New Java™ Platform Debugger Architecture," on March 26, 1998, at the Moscone Convention Center in San Francisco.

3. The concept of a formal specification which can be used to generate both a front-end and a back-end debugger which are consistent with each other was conceived by me after the presentation noted above.
4. The concept of a formal specification which can be used to generate both a front-end and a back-end debugger did NOT occur to me or two other senior software engineers who worked with me for several months on implementing JPDA.
5. I originally conceived the concept of a formal specification after encountering a particularly nasty inconsistency between the *front-end* and *back-end* of the JPDA implementation. Where the *front-end* and *back-end* are the components of the JPDA implementation which communicate using the JDWP.
6. After the concept of a formal specification was conceived, it took me months of additional work to actually develop a working implementation of the debugger protocol generator. The implementation was NOT readily apparent to me or the other senior software engineers.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true. I further declare that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both (under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code), and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Date May 29, 2005

Robert Field:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Field", written over a horizontal line.